



The West Edge

by Sydney Elliott

Dear CCHA Community,

Last fall, at the national CCHA conference in Phoenix, I made a wonderful mistake. I approached incoming CCHA president Andy Rusnak and blurted out my skill set as an editor and writer. I was fresh out of my presentation, high on adrenaline, over-stimulated from watching others present as well, and let him have it in a five-minute gush. Little did I know that when I returned home to my tiny college and town of Tillamook, Oregon, that I would be added to a team of talented staff with the support of an exceptional board to fill some very big shoes and help champion the legacy of this publication.

It's an honor to be included in this transition for both CCHA and the Community College Humanities Review (CCHR). CCHR is looking to maintain its mission of publishing the very finest peer-reviewed research, but we are also expanding our mission and our vision to include features and articles that appeal to our audience—us—teachers, writers, historians, scholars, and more. We are hoping future issues will reflect the diversity in content and contributors that make up our organization and our field.

As I pieced together the content that spans the last several years, I have enjoyed the enthusiasm of the contributors and all those on the CCHA staff and board. However, I must admit that as I envisioned this journal, it became less of a passion and more of a personal mission. Barring being melodramatic, as I watched events unfold this year, as I listened to (or tried not to) rhetoric that was antithesis to what the humanities afford our culture, and as I saw colleges cancel class after class, I knew that this publication was an important voice that celebrates thought and innovation. It got real. So, here it is. The content is varied. It traipses from Germany to Disney. I love all of it. I would like to invite you to contact CCHR. We want to be your platform and the voice of the humanities from coast to coast.

I also want to thank Emily Sohmer Tai, as she has been invaluable in my transition into this role. Her background and expertise is profoundly appreciated. There are many others that deserve recognition and thanks, especially the contributors to this issue and the individuals who are responsible for making my design ideas a reality. I'll look forward to doing that in person soon.

Enjoy!

Best,

Sydney J. Elliott

Editor

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